

James W. Binkley

Annals of Cleveland
Newspaper Series

COMMENT ON CURRENT EVENTS
Number 2

This material consists of abstracts from
the current files of the foreign-language and
the Negro press in Cleveland, selected from
the regular digest being prepared by the

CLEVELAND FOREIGN LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER DIGEST

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Work Projects Administration in Ohio
District Four -- Cleveland
July, 1941

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U. S. 100-1-100
Work Project Administration in Ohio
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July, 1941

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The material in this release has been taken from 12 foreign-language and four Negro newspapers studied by the Cleveland Foreign Language Newspaper Digest. For the purpose of compiling this release all issues of these papers dated June 5 to June 19, 1941*, inclusive, have been analyzed. Some material published in issues previous to June 5 is also included.

Figures in parenthesis at the end of an abstract indicate the length in column inches of the original article.

The preface to release number 1 contains detailed information about these releases and the newspapers studied.

*A special survey has been made of the June 23, 24, and 25 issues to include material on the invasion of Russia.

The material in this release was prepared from the original
language and has been translated into English.
The original language was prepared by the author of the
report and is not a translation of the original.
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COMMENTS ON CURRENT EVENTS
From the Cleveland Foreign-Language Press

NATIONAL DEFENSE AND PREPAREDNESS

GERMAN: Waechter und Anzeiger

May 27: 2/1,2 - Now that our nation is building modern war machinery there is bound to be a shortage of certain products. The government, realizing that an emergency exists, plans a systematic collection of old aluminum utensils and other articles of light metal. It is doubtful whether it will gain much from this experiment; but it will be worth while, because it will bring to every citizen the realization that it is his duty to contribute to the defense of his nation.
(Editorial)

(12)

June 11: 2/1,2 - In almost every branch of industry national defense orders receive priority. The OPM has already curtailed automobile production for the coming year, and Detroit auto plants have been converted into armament industries. This naturally will not only increase prices but will result in a shortage of cars. The increased purchasing power of the working masses shows especially in an increased demand for automobiles. Logical though it may be to raise the standard of living, under the present circumstances our private interests should be sacrificed to the interests of the defense program. (Editorial)

(14)

HUNGARIAN: Szabadsag

May 31: 2/1,2 - "We can outproduce anybody" was our proud slogan at the inauguration of the defense program and statistics for the first 12 months corroborate this. Behind the already gigantic and daily increasing accomplishments, there are no concentration camps, slave drivers, bayonets, subjugating of minorities, annihilation of opposition, or mechanized brutality under the guise of New Order. There is freedom of speech, freedom of opposition, religious liberty, right of assembly, general election, co-operation, patriotism, loyalty, and enthusiasm! (Editorial)

(30)

June 3: 2/1,2 - Wendell Willkie, commenting on President Roosevelt's speech, said: "The era of political blacklisting is gone.... We all have only one goal: to make a success of our present efforts.... The President's speech was great, noble."

We quote these words from the speech of the so-called opposition party as an epilog to the President's speech. We call the opposition party "so-called" because in the matter of national defense and patriotism there is not and cannot be opposition among us; we all are Americans, loyal sons of our country. (Editorial) (14)

POLISH: Wiadomosci Codzienne

June 4: 2/1 - Germany wants to knock out Great Britain before the United States defense program is completed. The Nazis let out a peace dove in the form of Rudolph Hess unsuccessfully. This time the olive branch was poisoned -- to accept it would have meant the death of liberty. Hitler is trying everything possible to defeat Britain, so he can conquer more neutral countries and reach across the ocean to strangle America economically, politically, and probably militarily. He is in a hurry, because time is against him. When the life or death of future generations is at stake there is no time to waste. (Editorial by Dr. W. Gawronski) (25)

ROUMANIAN: America

May 27, 2/1,2 - The United States must insure the safety of its two sea coasts by immediate occupation of the strategic points from which an invasion is possible. France holds strategic positions and, through the policies of the Vichy government, can harm the United States if Hitler attempts to take them first. To hesitate now is to give the enemy a chance to get ahead and appear without warning on our doorstep at a moment when we consider ourselves protected by the oceans and the mercy of the One above. (Editorial) (29)

ROUMANIAN: Foia Poporului

June 8: 1/3; 2/2 - President Roosevelt charged every citizen of the United States with a duty to do all that is possible for national defense. Our nation is engaged in the most important job of its 165 years; by helping America we help England, the Allies, and ourselves. Only in this way will we escape the merciless claws of those who aim to enslave the peoples of the entire world. (16)

FREEDOM OF THE SEAS

JEWISH: Yidishe Welt

June 15: 4/1,2 - The whole story of the incident of the sinking of the Robin Moor by a Nazi submarine has not yet been told. So much however has been established: that the ship did not carry contraband and that it was sunk in brutal violation of international law. There may be some truth in the suspicion that the Nazis gambled with lives of innocent people to see how America would react, and in case nothing is done about this brutal act, they would then have a sure whip against America. (Editorial) (10)

POLISH: Wiadomosci Codzienne

May 29: 1/6 - Roosevelt took a firm stand, saying that America will not tolerate Hitlerism, and would insist on the freedom of the seas. Aid to England will be increased, and the United States will enter the war if necessary. Now let the Germans try and sink an American ship! (10)

June 13: 4/2 - The Robin Moor, an American ship, was sunk on its way to Africa. History repeats itself. During the World War, when the Germans sank the first American ship, America was silent; but when the third ship was sunk President Wilson demanded that Congress declare war against Germany. We are certain that this will happen again. (Editorial) (9)

SLOVAK: Hlas

June 5: 2/3,4 - Roosevelt told the world that the United States will not permit a Nazi triumph. The President clearly and emphatically stated that America will see to it that war materials will be delivered to the Allies. Brothers and sisters, let us all unite against pagan nazism and its allies. The time has come to prove who we are and what we are! (Editorial) (32)

STRIKES

CHECH: Svet-American

June 13: 3/3,4 - The former Cleveland Communists testified before the Dies Committee that Edward T. Cheyfitz, Alex Balint, and Edward Badden, CIO leaders, who called a strike at the Aluminum Company of America in Cleveland, are former members of the Communist party. The presidents of the AFL and the CIO issued proclamations to the workers warning them not to be lured by subversive elements who do not care for the welfare of the workers, but only for their own. Everything indicates that these are working for Hitler's benefit. It seems that the strikes called at the aviation factory in Inglewood, California, and the aluminum factory will result in a change of leadership in the unions, and their responsible union positions will be given to honest men, instead of brawlers. (18)

GERMAN: Waechter und Anzeiger

June 12: 2/1,2 - In the interest of uninterrupted armaments production, the government had to resort to drastic measures and end the strike at the North American Aviation Company in Inglewood, California. For years the government supported the interests of the workers, and it must have been a bitter disappointment that it was impossible to settle the controversy in an amicable manner. This strike was condemned by CIO headquarters, thereby convincing the nation that irresponsible elements are leading the workers by the nose. Such events may contribute to a change of public sentiment towards labor, and deprive organized labor of the recent gains accomplished. (Editorial) (11)

June 14: 2/1,2 - Before judging the strikes in American industry, it is essential to establish the facts: are the strikes the outcome of controversies between labor and capital? or are they instigated by shady elements for political reasons? Even though a great deal of what has been said about recent strikes in the armaments industry may be merely propaganda there is enough evidence to suspect that communistic agitators had a hand in it. Such agitators cannot be fought with kind phrases; only drastic measures by the government will have any effect. No democracy can permit existing privileges to be abused to a point which might tend to destroy our democracy. (Editorial) (14)

HUNGARIAN: Szabadsag

May 12: 2/1,2 - President Roosevelt was right in his belief that

strong retaliatory measures should not be applied in the case of the striking workers all over the country. He knew that sooner or later normal conditions would return, which they did. We are, unquestionably, on the right road. Not that we have rid ourselves of strikes forever, but we at last are in a position that resembles normalcy. Whatever happens we must remember one thing: without the proper co-operation of employers and employees the tempo of national defense cannot be kept up. And we all know that there isn't and never has been a task that was more important than this! (Editorial)

(15)

June 2: 2/3,4 - The epidemic of strikes has already caused the loss of over 1,000,000 man-days in the national defense program. Not for a second do we want to minimize the devastating physical and moral effects of strikes, yet we believe that besides immediate gains to labor, strikes also bring some insufficiently-appreciated profits to the country. Every citizen of this country as well as every subjugated human being in the world can see that it is still possible and permissible to strike here; that in democratic countries there is no power which can chain the worker to his bench even in case of national emergency. (Article by H. M.)

(27)

JEWISH: Yidishe Welt

June 10: 4/1,2 - The action of our government in ordering troops to Inglewood, California, to take control of the airplane factory there was a necessary step under present circumstances. Defense production must not be interrupted and employees willing to work must not be prevented from working. (Editorial)

(15)

POLISH: Wiadomosci Codzienne

June 7: 2/1,2 - The fact that new decrees are being proclaimed practically every day by President Roosevelt indicates that times are serious and that we must prepare our national defenses as soon as possible. Congress is passing appropriations of new billions every day; recruits are going to camps, to be instructed in the use of arms; and we hear declarations about saving gasoline, fuel, and other necessities which we will have to do without but without which the defense program cannot be accomplished. Everything is being prepared and used for our country's defense; for the defense of our democracy, independence, and liberty.

Did we say everything? Oh no, not everything! throughout the country day after day hundreds are striking, holding back government orders so necessary for our national defense and which will not be completed in time. The government is doing nothing in this respect. There is no sense in hurrying the men into military camps or training civilians for defense if we have no tanks, ships, bombs, and machines with which to defend ourselves.

Hitler is taking Europe by pieces and is now on the way toward invasion of Africa. South America and then North America will follow. We are picketing factories and work is at a standstill. Hitler,

Mussolini, Stalin, and the Japanese are rubbing their hands in satisfaction.

It is high time that the government look into the corner from which we will get our defense needs — the factories — and see to it that disagreements are straightened out wherever possible without strikes. Give the worker a decent wage and the factories a fair profit.

(Editorial)

(34)

FREEZING OF AXIS FUNDS

HUNGARIAN: Szabadsag

May 13: 2/1,2 - Secretary of State Hull opposes all his colleagues who favor the freezing of axis funds in America. He has three arguments: that Hitler would be sure to retaliate, that the Axis Powers have very little money in banks here, and that he has no knowledge of axis money in the banks being used for Nazi propaganda. We think that Hull's explanation is not altogether satisfactory. Perhaps this does not mean however that Hull's position is weak, but that correspondents do not have all the facts. (Editorial)

(17)

JEWISH: Yidishe Welt

June 10: 4/1,2 - Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau announced that it is too late to freeze the money belonging to the Fascist countries, because they withdrew their money from American banks before the freezing order was issued. This is not the only thing which should have been done in time to weaken the vicious power of the Nazis and Fascists. Their spies and agents should have been deported a long time ago, yet today they still move about freely poisoning the country and sabotaging wherever possible. Will our government finally understand that these are times when we have to act drastically and speedily? (Editorial)

(12)

POLISH: Wiadomosci Codzienne

June 18: 2/2 - Hitler undoubtedly acted like a madman when he received news that President Roosevelt ordered the freezing of German and Italian funds in the United States and the closing of all German consulates and propaganda bureaus. Until now, everything was going smoothly. The propaganda machinery was functioning properly, and Nazi-chasers like Lindbergh and Wheeler were producing results. Like a thunderbolt from the sky, Roosevelt put this costly machinery out of order. Hitler is cursing so horribly that even the nests of the gods are trembling. All the rest of the world is rejoicing and a new hope has entered human hearts. When Hitler's plans begin to collapse, soon liberty and justice will triumph. (Editorial)

(15)

THE GERMAN CONSULATES; PROPAGANDA AND THE FIFTH COLUMN

CZECH: Svet-American

May 26: 6/4 - At a communistic meeting at Cleveland's Public Hall, Israel Amter said that President Roosevelt awaits the opportunity to drag America into an imperialistic war, while Hitler, Mussolini, and Stalin fight for the liberation of the working class. He who can digest this must have a stomach like an ostrich! (11)

GERMAN: Waechter und Anzeiger

June 17: 1/5,7; 5/5,7 - The order to close the 24 German consulates came as a surprise. It is based on the assertion that these agencies of the reich are promoting activities not within their scope. All consular officials and employees who are German citizens will have to leave the country by July 10. The closing of the consulates is a war measure. (32)

HUNGARIAN: Szabadsag

May 27: 2/3 - On I Am An American Day in New York almost a million people demonstrated their loyalty to the United States. Usually it is not necessary to flash our loyalty to America before everybody's eyes, but now, when our enemies, boring from within, do plan to destroy our democracy we have to do everything in our power, in a concentrated effort, to counteract their shameful work. (Column by Jeno Lukacs) (7)

JEWISH: Yidishe Welt

May 27: 4/1,2 - Now when the people of America are passionately discussing the war crisis, we hear the isolationists say: This is not our war. To keep on saying this is to keep the people unprepared for a grave danger. (Editorial) (16)

June 17: 4/1,2 - In the last few days two essential steps have been taken to combat the danger threatening our security through the heroes of darkness who try to undermine the country from hidden places. Last Saturday President Roosevelt issued an order freezing the assets of axis countries, which should deprive Nazi-Fascist agents of their resources for underground work against the interests of the American people. Yesterday followed a more drastic order, closing all Nazi consulates because of ample evidence that consular officials devoted their time

and money to propaganda against the American government. We hope that, as a result of these orders, our atmosphere will be purified, and that our defense work can go on undisturbed. (Editorial)

(13)

POLISH: Wiadomosci Codzienne

June 17: 1,7,8; 4/7,8 - President Roosevelt has ordered the closing of all the German consulates and agencies in the United States; all persons connected with them must leave the country. The opinion prevails that Hitler will retaliate with a similar step. The action of the President will be a mighty blow to the Germans. Taken by surprise, they may transfer their propaganda into the hands of American Germans. This action however will not be very effective. It all indicates that the United States is nearing war rapidly.

(42)

June 18: 2/6 - Lindbergh, Wheeler, and other adherents of Hitlerism in America have become mimics to such an extent that Lindbergh can say that it is high time to change the leadership in America, which means that he urges rebellion. The government has need to call these propaganda spreaders to order. When it ordered the closing of the German consulates it also should have struck against domestic propagandists, who may be more dangerous than those from abroad.

(7)

ROUMANIAN: America

June 5: 2/1,2 - Axis partisans and the isolationists tell us that if this country enters the war against the dictators we will lose our individual freedom and never regain it. We are not prophets, but we do not believe in tales designed to put us to sleep. We have no fear that our rights and liberties will be destroyed. Agents of totalitarian governments should be placed in a position where they cannot obstruct the efforts which this nation is called upon to make to insure a final and just victory. (Editorial)

(30)

SLOVENIAN: Enakopravnost

June 17: 1/6,7 - The consuls, their agents, and the German propagandists are ordered to leave America by July 10. The German propaganda issued by the Library of Information in New York will also be discontinued. This will be the end of the German propaganda which our editorial staff has received regularly.

(30)

POPULAR RIGHTS DURING THE CRISIS

ITALIAN: L'Araldo

Mar. 21: 8/1,2 - War destroys human life and riches, threatens to overthrow centuries of civilization, and retards the gradual process of fraternity among the peoples. Even in America the concord of the various ethnic groups is disturbed by suspicion and discrimination against foreign-born, and especially against us Italians. While political antagonism between the United States and Italy accentuates this, we Italo-Americans must do all possible to keep alive the friendship between the two peoples and support vigilantly the weakest parts. We must begin with the reconstruction of our prestige, jeopardized by fatal errors and a lack of harmony and organization. (Editorial by Matteo Teresi) (26)

Mar. 21: 8/5 - Every one knows that with the war comes war discipline, dictatorial powers, fanatic intolerance masquerading as patriotism, the necessity to limit the freedom of thought and speech, and so on. Democracy is suspended during a state of emergency because of supreme political and military necessity. A new provisory regime begins, and no one can say whether it will remain, either wholly or partially. It is possible that what has always happened elsewhere will not come to pass here in America, but this danger is one of the many reasons why the people prefer peace and only accept war to defend their country and in it all that is dear and sacred. (Miles, in a column by Il Romeo) (5)

THE SUPREME COURT APPOINTMENTS

GERMAN: Waechter und Anzeiger

June 16: 2/1,2 - President Roosevelt has nominated more members to the Supreme Court than any of his predecessors. His nominations have been severely criticized, but the recent nomination of Harlan F. Stone as chief justice may be received more favorably. In this case the President has followed an old tradition and appointed the man entitled to the post by his seniority. Justice Stone, a Republican, is an excellent jurist and is held in high esteem. Attorney General Robert H. Jackson and Sen. James Francis Byrnes of South Carolina have also been nominated to the court. Both are Democrats and ardent supporters of the New Deal.

The Supreme Court has lost its character as an independent branch of government during the last few years. Of the old guard only two remain, Justice Stone and Justice Owen J. Roberts. (Editorial) (10)

JEWISH: Yidishe Welt

June 15: 5/1,5; 6/7,8 - The appointment of high officials seldom caused such satisfaction as the promotion of Justice Harlan F. Stone to the office of chief justice and the nominations of Attorney General Robert Jackson and Sen. James Francis Byrnes as associate justices of the Supreme Court. In appointing a former Republican as chief justice, Roosevelt made a strong gesture for national unity, a great necessity in the present crisis. (Article by Notte Schoenfeld) (Photo of Justice Stone and his son) (82)

PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

HUNGARIAN: Szabadsag

May 17: 2/1,2 - Sen. Wheeler said something that will be good material for collectors of humorous anecdotes -- that this is the time for President Roosevelt to act as a peace mediator. All Americans want to see the end of bloodshed as much as the senator from Montana. With whom are we to negotiate peace? With Hitler, who never kept a promise, and whose pacts are worthless? (Editorial) (16)

JEWISH: Yidishe Welt

June 8: 4/1,2 - Rumors have circulated that Winant, ambassador to England, has returned on some sort of peace mission. Everybody knows that President Roosevelt never misses an opportunity to emphasize that there can be no peace as long as Hitler and Mussolini are in the saddle, and it is hard to believe that he would even consider a possibility of peace under the present circumstances. It is more likely that Winant returned here to give a detailed report on England's situation, with the purpose of appealing for speedy aid to England, and we hope this assumption is true. (Editorial) (11)

June 9: 5/4-4 - In the course of one week three world personalities have made public pronouncements: the pope, President Roosevelt, and Anthony Eden. All three declarations concerned the formation of a new future, and are an indication that something is going on in the secret chambers of diplomacy. It is possible that both dictators have made peace attempts. The replies from the Vatican, from Washington, and from London may convince the dictators that peace talks under present circumstances are out of the question. We have an idea that Berlin already knows that charlatanism will not help this time, and that the Nazis will have to go on fighting until they reach their final stage of self-destruction; a well-deserved penalty, in accord with their brutalities. (Article by N. Kravitz) (52)

SLOVENIAN: Ameriska Domovina

May 14: 2/1,2 - A Japanese daily, mouthpiece of Foreign Minister Matsuoka, printed some proposals under which the axis would be prepared to negotiate peace in Europe and in the Orient. We have one side doing the proposing -- the other side, which is to do the accepting, is missing. (Editorial) (26)

THE POST-WAR WORLD

GERMAN: Waechter und Anzeiger

June 16: 2/1,2 - The appeal of the Quakers for termination of hostilities and establishment of a just and lasting peace coincides with the text of the Pentecost message by Pope Pius XII. This manifestation bears the conviction that this war cannot be ended either by a revival of the fatal Versailles treaty or by bringing back any previously-existing conditions.

A new peace must not only restore order but take into consideration the changed circumstances. It is necessary that the sources of supply of raw materials be available to all nations, and that ports be open to the surplus population from an overcrowded country into a thinly-inhabited one. (Editorial)

(19)

HUNGARIAN: Szabadsag

June 3: 2/3,7 - President Roosevelt's statement that we will not tolerate the return of an era like that of the 1920's, from which Hitlerism again would spring up, must comfort every Hungarian who faintheartedly prayed for a British victory. It is a favorite slogan with the American Hungarian Nazis that, if the English win, Hungary will lose all her recently-regained territory. The statement of the President had a cooling effect on this type of propaganda; it also liberated the American Hungarian masses from an uneasy feeling, so that now every American Hungarian can wish for victory for the democracies. (Article by Ander Fay Fisher)

(50)

ITALIAN: L'Araldo

Mar. 21: 8/4,5 - Let us suppose that in the next peace treaty democracy is affirmed as the beginning and the practical re-establishment of the nations overturned by the tempest. It is certain that in the name of democracy and justice, that treaty must not repeat the errors of Versailles.

America, arbitrator and guarantor of peace, recognizes the existence of nations which are too rich or too poor. Is it not preferable to put an end to the conflict and induce England to give today that which she must give tomorrow, even though victorious? Certainly, but Churchill has a well-founded hope; to win and to impose his peace, putting off the settlement until the third world war. I do not believe that America will become an accomplice in this other crime. England has always known that, win or lose, the price for aid from the United States will

be a just peace: it is a price which she must fatefully pay. (Civis, in a column by Il Romeo)

JEWISH: Yidishe Welt

June 10: 4/3,8 - Hitler achieved another victory in Crete, but somehow the Hitlerites are not so enthusiastic about it. The lucky conqueror himself stands over his bleeding victims terrified, and says to himself: "Strange victories! I achieve victory after victory, the whole world, even my enemies, admire my strength, but there is no end to the war." With the help of their motorized columns, and more still by intrigues and threats, the Nazis have succeeded in conquering countries, but not the peoples of those countries. The conquered nations are watchful, waiting for the day when they will rise again. That day when they turn against the enemy will come; it must. Let us not in the meantime begrudge the enemy his victories. (Article by Z. Wasserzug) (33)

POLISH: Wiadomosci Codzienne

June 2: 2/4 - Germany would like to create sentiment in America that in case she loses the war she should not be given punishing peace terms, which would, she says, only be the cause of new revenge. Such propaganda should be crushed. Germany should be disarmed and divided into small territories as before Bismarck's time. All occupied territories should be taken away from her; otherwise future generations will see a third German-inspired war. (7)

ITALY'S STATUS IN THE AXIS

ITALIAN: L'Araldo

June 6: 1/5-5 - Hitler and Mussolini again have met at Brenner Pass. Those who fear Hitler's ambitions, if they cannot save England, should prefer a victory not with the exclusion of Germany, but with the intervention of the Latin nations — Italy, France, and Spain — which are interested in a just and lasting peace. When certain fanatic factions try to humiliate Italy, disregarding her contributions to the axis victories and insulting her heroic soldiers, they show themselves to be morally unjust and politically blind. They must comprehend that Hitler will not emerge from this war a "solitary giant" if men like Mussolini, Petain, and Franco remain at his side. The wise think of the future not with a fixed thought that England must win, but consider also that she might lose.

(32)

ROUMANIAN: America

June 12: 2/1,2 - After one year "conquering" Il Duce speaks again. This time, however, he speaks softly, telling his Fascists that Italy is still "victorious." Mussolini has not changed; he is the same bombastic liar. Not being able to talk about the victories of the Italian armed forces, he complimented the German army, at the same time shouting insults across the ocean, saying Italy does not have to fear America.

Those who followed Il Duce's saner words, certainly understood that he is not the same Caesar who sent his troops into Ethiopia to increase the boundaries of the Italian empire. He is a simple clown, desperate over the fate of his people and nation, which he sees crumbling before Hitler, the "great conqueror." (Editorial)

(26)

SLOVENIAN: Enakopravnost

June 3: 1/4,5 - Mussolini and Hitler met in Brenner pass yesterday. Reports say that the two dictators reached a "complete understanding." The report does not mention many things -- for instance, that Hitler was the one who went to Mussolini's car. We may conclude from this that Hitler invited Mussolini. Why? Because Hitler promised the French vice premier, Darlan, that France would not lose any territory if she collaborates with Germany. What will Italy, who wanted Nice, Savoy, Corsica, Tunisia, to say nothing about Djibuti, get? It seems that the Italian people think they are being doublecrossed. Hitler will undoubtedly take France as his partner in the creating of a new order in Europe and throw Italy on a rubbish pile. Hitler knows how to be tactful. He proved it by permitting an Italian prince to occupy the Croatian throne, in order to calm the Italian people, who are hopeless and divided over the loss of Ethiopia.

(12)

SOVIET POLICIES

CZECH: Svet-American

May 30: 2/1-3 - Russia has signed a neutrality pact with Japan, leaving the entire world, including Hitler, in doubt about the further development of Soviet policies. Despite all the signs of strained relations between Germany and Russia it is impossible to say what Russia's next step will be. Tentatively we must be satisfied with the fact that Moscow is doing nothing by which Germany would benefit. (Editorial) (38)

HUNGARIAN: Szabadsag

June 7: 2/1,2 - Before Stalin joined the axis he urged the democracies to destroy Hitler. After the pact which made Hitler's advances possible was signed, Russia opposed those who fought against fascism.

Now when it appears as though Hitler might want to take the Ukraine bread basket away from him, Stalin probably will change his attitude again. (Editorial) (16)

ROUMANIAN: America

June 14: 3/5,6 - Stalin knows that, if Hitler does not conquer Britain this year, the only way to feed the German people with new victories is to campaign against Russia to obtain the resources of the Ukraine.

Nobody doubts that Hitler could reach Moscow in less time than it took him to get to Paris or Warsaw, but he won't attempt conquest since all he needs is the Ukraine resources. However when his enterprises in Asia Minor and northern Africa do not go so well he will not hesitate to make Stalin dance. Hitler has placed his army on the Russian border, expecting such moves. In the meantime Russia is waiting and shivering. (18)

SLOVENIAN: Enakopravnost

June 4: 2/1-4 - Hitler, the Nazi party, and the Cliveden clique know they are defeated. That is why Hess landed on the field near the home of the duke of Hamilton and not near Churchill's home. Hess has returned the Chamberlain visit to Godesberg. Chamberlain carried the peace terms of the Cliveden clique to Hitler, while Hess has brought Hitler's terms to one of the clique. Their landings differ but we must bear in mind that one was an appeaser and the other an instigator. The terms brought by Hess were probably as follows: "We know and you ought

to know that we cannot defeat each other. We are destroying each other while Stalin, the devil, is laughing. Would it not be better to compromise?" Hitler sent the right man to England. While Hess sprained his ankle, Stalin lived to see his greatest triumph in the fact that the world knows that Hess landed in England. (Editorial)

(35)

SYRIA

GERMAN: Waechter und Anzeiger

June 13: 2/1,2 - The more intense the war in Syria becomes, the more obvious it is that the Arab world will be drawn into the conflict. England's victory in Iraq supplies her with bases for a campaign against Syria. This will inevitably affect Trans-Jordania, which is situated between Iraq and Palestine. Emir Abdullah, ruler of Trans-Jordania, is entirely sympathetic toward the British government. In spite of several attempts against his life, he has steadfastly refused to support any anti-British movement. He probably speculates that some day England will reward him with the crown of Syria. (Editorial)

(22)

HUNGARIAN: Szabadsag

June 10: 2/1,2 - The Free French and the English were too quick for Hitler in Syria. The stutterings of the puppet Vichy government are not fooling anybody; it cannot say anything else than it is saying. Perhaps deep down in their hearts even these wooden puppets feel in agreement with the French and the English who are fighting for liberty

(21)

POLISH: Wiadomosci Codzienne

June 11: 2/2 - England finally decided to take the initiative, and occupied Syria before Germany beat her to it. It seems that victory in this war depends upon a constant offensive. Germany has won all her victories because her armed forces used that method. We hope England understands that if she expects to win this war she must act, and not wait for roasted pigeons to fly into her mouth. (Editorial)

(14)

ROUMANIAN: America

June 10: 1/1,2; 3/1-4 - After much stalling the British and Free French forces abandoned the formula of letting threatened nations decide their own fate, and upset Hitler's and Petain's plans by invading Syria. Great Britain has vital interests in that corner of the world, whereas Germany and her allies have none. For weeks the well-known German "tourists" have been filtering into Syria and the Vichy government has kept its eyes closed. We well remember the story of Roumania's invasion by "tourists" and "military experts" who were sent

ROUMANIAN: America (cont)

ahead of the German troops. In the face of these acts, Great Britain decided to block the anticipated Nazi blows. It would not hurt if the United States also should take the initiative away from the Nazis by using, at least in part. the tactics of the famous warriors of Berlin. (24)

GIBRALTAR

GERMAN: Waechter und Anzeiger

June 2: 2/1,2 - Gibraltar, which plays an important part in the present events, has been of interest not only to historians, but to zoologists as well. A certain species of monkeys, belonging to the African fauna, has survived in this region. The fortifications of Gibraltar however have threatened their habitat and they are slowly dying out. According to an old legend the monkeys will survive in this territory as long as Britain rules Gibraltar.

The imminent attack on Gibraltar has caused the evacuation of all civilians and all animals, all but the monkeys; yea, malicious tongues claim that in order to raise British optimism a new load of long-tailed creatures has been brought in from Africa. (Editorial) (12)

COMMENTS ON CURRENT EVENTS
From the Cleveland Negro Press

NATIONAL DEFENSE AND PREPAREDNESS

HERALD

May 22: 6/7 - The Negro people aren't sold on this war. They aren't sold on fighting fascism abroad. They aren't sold on going into the army, or paying higher taxes, or doing anything else to save the democracies. They don't like Hitler. They don't like fascism. Why do they say this and feel this within themselves? Because we have made them feel it. Because we have given them so small a share of democracy. Now, in a time of national crisis, we recognize our mistakes. We have thrown the Negro people a few sops halfheartedly. We still won't let them build airplanes, won't give them any share of the gravy in the defense boom. We still won't let them into Annapolis, or into the navy at all except as menials. We are with reluctance taking a few into the army, even training a few airmen, but in strictly segregated units, the very concept of which is an insult to the Negro. What are we going to do about it? (Editorial reprinted from P.M., New York)

(7)

June 12: 6/1,2 - Modern war has two distinct phases -- military and economic, and the deciding weapon in either case will be the belligerent powers' natural resources. It takes metals of all kinds in incredible quantity to make weapons and the machines which produce them. The United States is singularly blessed with the principal natural resources, and under the private enterprise system we have developed them to an extent unrivaled anywhere.

Industries which turn natural resources into productive power will co-operate to the limit with the government now and in the future. They will show the world that America, under free enterprise, is stronger than dictatorship, and that free men will out-produce slaves.

This is no time to change a system which has met and conquered every past threat, and which today is gathering all of its vast resources to meet the menace of the present. (Editorial)

(16)

STRIKES

GUIDE

June 14: 1/1 - President Roosevelt has issued a proclamation declaring a national emergency. To the average citizen this proclamation has little meaning. In my opinion one of the main reasons for it is to abolish strikes that have retarded the manufacture of defense material. Although Roosevelt has done more for labor than any other president, and has hesitated to crack down when strikes halted defense preparations, he will feel more inclined to do so under different circumstances.
(Column by Eugene F. Cheeks)

(7)

HERALD

May 22: 6/5 - Industry has always played upon the fact that the Negro has not been included among the union men. Negroes are not hired unless it is time to break a strike or a threatened strike. Until young and old and black and white can join hands in the effort to solve the common problems there can be no peace in the labor movement any more than there can be peace in this world.

(21)

May 29: 6/1,2 - Our nation is faced with labor conditions which threaten its future. Labor dictatorship which can force men to leave their jobs regardless of their own wishes, the welfare of their nation, and in defiance of the government itself, is inexcusable. While strikes should not be outlawed neither should they be encouraged by governmental policy.

State and federal labor laws should be revised when necessary to embody the principle that while men are free to quit their jobs at will they are not free forcibly to prevent other men from taking them.

(12)

AMERICANISM

GAZETTE

June 7: 1/3,8 - With our loins girded up with determination to resist the encroachment of every ism except Americanism our country is not only beset with subversive activities directed by saboteurs. There is a hardened species of bigotry which is denying to the Negro an opportunity to co-operate patriotically in those programs of preparedness which have first call upon our energies and intelligence. Constant effort fails to break down the walls of prejudice and industrial traditions. Negro loyalty is no new thing. It has always been laid on the altar of national peril. It will respond now as in the long years since the founding of the republic. Such a spirit and loyalty should be matched by a great government with equal magnanimity of spirit, with justice and fair play. (Article by Emmett J. Scott)

(14)

CALL AND POST

May 17; sec II: 8/3,4 - May 18 is I am an American day. The original American was the Indian. Any other persons living here came because of various circumstances from other lands. Therefore no group has any more claim to citizenship here than any other. Despite these facts, many foreign racial groups, once they breathe the free air after landing here, themselves become the greatest violators of the very Constitution many of them swore to uphold. It is nice to be proud of being an American but the acid test of how good an American you are is the degree of liberty and how many of those privileges you enjoy you are willing to grant to others. The Negro too is an American, but this doesn't seem to register with millions who think that Americanism is something restricted or regulated by the color of the skin. (Editorial)

(14)

DEMOCRACY: THE NEGRO'S HOPE

CALL AND POST

June 21; sec II: 12/1,8 - The time is at hand when we must face the ugly fact that democracy has its back to the wall! Hitler is about to make a clean sweep of Europe and then only God knows what will happen. It is high time this nation is buckling down to the task of preparedness. The Fascist and Nazi ideologies are threatening the whole concept of democracy, and unless democracy can rally we are lost. If we were white men we would have little or no fears for a future that brought even Hitlerism. But with Negroes it is different. We've had our black Pattis, black Spurgeons, black Billy Sundays, and black what-nots; but God forbid that we should have black Wheelers or black Lindberghs! Hitler has already served notice to the world what the Negro need expect. The revival of lynching in Florida shows what is lurking in the natures of certain elements in this country. The "go" sign they are waiting for will come from Hitler, and let's not delude ourselves on this point. This nation -- and the Negro especially -- is facing a serious situation. Negroes, this is our war! The man with much can afford to lose some; the man with little cannot afford to lose that little. (Editorial by Dean Gordon B. Hancock)

(40)

NAZISM LOOKS TOWARD AFRICA

CALL AND POST

May 24; sec II: 12/3,6 - Germany has long coveted the rich lands and products of Africa. Upon the heels of Nazi military victories in Europe comes the desire to regain the colonies lost by the kaiser in the World War, and later to gain complete possession of the African continent. No greater threat to the Negro people of the world exists than Nazism. Slavery of the worst type is all that Hitler has ever offered dark people. With the millions of African natives under his command we would have racial persecution at its worst. (Editorial)

(14)

SUPPLEMENT

THE INVASION OF RUSSIA

CZECH: Svet-American

June 23: 1/6,7 - The German armies are on the march against Russia and the queer partnership which just preceded the European war is at an end. Hitler, like Napoleon, turned to the east. He is back on the road which he outlined for himself in Mein Kampf: enmity towards Russia and communism. Hitler evidently is convinced that he cannot defeat Great Britain quickly and therefore has decided to snatch Russia's immense raw materials and thus offset the help which Britain is getting from the United States.

(36)

HUNGARIAN: Szabadsag

June 24: 2/1,2 - A week ago we said in an editorial that the Bolsheviks would howl if Hitler broke into Russia, and they would make an about-face, shouting "full speed ahead" for saving the "workers' country," a la Father Stalin. Churchill said that England would help anyone fighting against the Nazi-Fascists. This can easily be understood. A ship caught in a storm is anxious to get into any port.

Hitler is not the only one who can destroy his enemies one by one.

Let Stalin's followers in this country not be encouraged. Bolshevism is just as hated in the eyes of the democracies as it always was. The help is not for the Soviet but against Hitler. Let no one be fooled: the bloody day of bolshevism is reaching its sunset stage, the present German-Russian life-and-death battle is a promise of a better future for suffering mankind.

It would be best if the United States would not help the Soviet. Let us help England, but let it be the business of the English leaders where, how, and what aid the Soviet gets, because England knows best what she can do without. (Editorial)

(16)

JEWISH: Yidishe Welt

June 24: 4/1,2 - The march of the Nazi gangsters against Russia makes it more evident than ever before that Hitlerism is the world's greatest enemy. We did not have to wait long for England to declare her policy, and yesterday Sumner Welles branded the attack upon Russia as treacherous. The

democracies know the proper reaction. To believe that Hitler, after his many brutalities and betrayals, fights only bolshevism and desires peace with all others, would be to help him triumph. (Editorial) (17)

POLISH: Wiadomosci Codzienne

June 23: 2/1 - Hitler has struck at Stalin. The two bandits are going to fight it out between themselves. The world should rejoice. The longer they fight the better, for as soon as they become exhausted humanity can put an end to both of them. Russia must pay the penalty for stabbing Poland in the back. (Editorial by Dr. W. Gawronski) (10)

ROUMANIAN: America

June 24: 2/1,2 - With the usual lightning stroke Hitler announced the beginning of the "holy" war against communism, and added Russia to the list of countries which he intends to dominate. Many will probably ask why a war when Hitler could have had Ukraine wheat and Baku oil without shedding the blood of millions of soldiers? Hitler is not among those who are satisfied to bargain with friends or enemies of the reich. Probably Russia, certain that Hitler would not venture into such a dangerous war, demanded assurances and certain benefits in exchange for oil and wheat. Hitler is not used to being contradicted, especially by muzhiks like Molotov or Stalin. Moreover, he fears the reaction of nations made insane by hunger.

We hope the United States will not listen to the ill-omened voices of the pacifists, but that she will continue the fight against the greatest monster history has known: Hitler and his philosophy of "life in chains." (30)

SLOVENIAN: Ameriska Domovina

June 24: 2/1,2 - War between Germany and Russia was inevitable, not because of any quarrel between Hitler and Stalin, but because Hitler needed Ukrainian wheat and the oil of Baku which he tried to buy in Moscow — with a sword in his hand. When Poland was divided Stalin put himself before the door of Germany; now Hitler needs only to open that door to step into Russia. The people of Finland, Bessarabia, Latvia, Bucovina, and Estonia are helping Hitler only to repay Stalin for their sufferings and loss of freedom, and because of the present European war which was brought about only because of Stalin's "policies." The rest of the world will watch and wait for the end of the Communists. The southern Slavs will not shed a tear if Russia fails, for Mother Russia stood by and watched the Germany army invade the Balkans. Russia was the first to recognize the end of Yugoslavia, dismissing the Yugoslav ambassador to please Hitler. Russian "policies"? Phooey!

We hope that these two executioners bite each other to death. God give them a hasty end, these brown and red dictators. (Editorial) (36)

SLOVENIAN: Enakopravnost

June 23: 2/1,2 - What the world knew and awaited, that Russia and Germany would clash, yesterday became a reality. If Stalin had been sincere his

people would have been spared this sad experience. There would have been no pacts with Berlin and Turkey. Today Russia's past deeds are no longer important. Our sympathies are on the side of those who sacrifice their lives against aggressive nazism; we therefore are on Russia's side, now that she is an ally of England and America. We do not know to what extent Russia is to blame for the present war; she is now at war against the common enemy and deserves the sympathy and help of the civilized world.

In this tragedy two humorous episodes appear: Mussolini has bombastically declared that the "brave" Italian army will help Germany in this new battle; and the American Communists must make an about-face and solemnly renounce their previous statements that England and America are fighting an imperialistic war. They must accept the "war-monger" Churchill and "imperialistic" England as Stalin's allies. (Editorial) (38)

